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Welcome to the 54th IFATSEA General Assembly

It is with great honour and privilege that I welcome all affiliates, observers, industry partners, and distinguished guests to the **54th IFATSEA General Assembly in Nairobi, Kenya.**

On behalf of the IFATSEA Africa Region, I extend a warm African welcome to all participants joining us from across the globe for this important gathering of ATSEP professionals, chiefly organised by IFATSEA, under the stewardship of our President, Ing. Frank Kofi Apeagyei, and arranged courtesy of our affiliate and esteemed host, the Kenyan Air Traffic Safety Electronics Association (KATSEA).

This year's theme, **"ATSEP VAR: Valuing, Acknowledging and Recognising the Safety-Critical Role of ATSEP Professionals,"** reflects both the challenges and opportunities facing our profession today. At a time when aviation systems are becoming increasingly complex, interconnected, and technology-driven, it is essential that the aviation community fully appreciates the indispensable role played by ATSEP professionals in maintaining the safety, resilience, and continuity of air navigation services. Our contribution to the air-safety value chain is fundamental to safe and efficient flight operations, yet our role is often performed behind the scenes and without the recognition it deserves.

As we convene in Nairobi, this General Assembly provides an opportunity not only to strengthen the bonds within our Federation, our esteemed observers and key industry partners, but also to reaffirm our commitment to advocating for the recognition, development, and advancement of the ATSEP profession worldwide. Through collaboration, knowledge sharing, and constructive dialogue, we will continue to champion the interests of our members and contribute to the continued enhancement of aviation safety.

I invite all the affiliates, observers, industry partners and policymakers to make the necessary travel arrangements to gather in Nairobi, with a focused mission to share experiences and work together in shaping the future of our profession. Let us use this occasion to reinforce the message that valuing, acknowledging, and recognising ATSEP is essential to sustaining the highest levels of aviation safety and operational excellence.

As you prepare to visit the pride of Africa, I also encourage you to look forward to experiencing the warmth, culture, and hospitality that Kenya is renowned for, and to enjoy the vibrant city of Nairobi, the gateway to Africa.

Karibu Kenya. Welcome to Nairobi.